

June 19, 2006

This regulation is proposed to expand the open burning ban window from June 1st - August 31st in the current regulation, to May 1st - September 30th, and to clarify the prohibitions in the existing regulation and their interaction with other applicable laws and regulation.

The changes mentioned above constitute the primary amendments to the regulation. However, due to the expansion of the burning ban statewide, the format of the entire regulation required changing because the prohibitions that were attributable to certain areas no longer exists. As a result, the approach taken to the amendment is to delete the existing regulation in its entirety and adopt a new version. Except for the expansion detailed above, the only changes made are to clarify the implementation of the regulation, based on experience of staff, and are not intended to be more stringent.

REGULATION NO. 1113
OPEN BURNING

xx/xx/06

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this regulation is to control air emissions by establishing rules for open burning activities.

2.0 Applicability

This regulation applies to all open burning activity in Delaware.

3.0 Definitions

- 3.1. **[NEW] “10-Day Notification” means** a notification that shall be made in accordance with 40 CFR Section 61.145, “Standard for Demolition and Renovation” of the asbestos National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP), as adopted through July 1, 2005.
- 3.2. **[NEW] “AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS” means** an activity on land currently used or intended to be used primarily for the purpose of obtaining a profit in money by raising, harvesting and selling crops or by raising and selling livestock or poultry. Agricultural operation also means activities conducted by not-for-profit agricultural research organizations, which activities are necessary to serve that purpose. It does not include the construction and use of structures customarily provided in conjunction with the agricultural operation.
- 3.3. **“ASBESTOS” means** any or all of the forms of asbestos including Actinolite, Amosite, Anthophyllite, Chrysotile, Crocidolite, or Tremolite.
- 3.4. **“ASBESTOS MATERIAL” means** asbestos or any material containing asbestos.
- 3.5. **“CEREMONIAL FIRES” means** bonfires used for ceremonies sponsored by educational, cultural, or religious institutions.
- 3.6. **[NEW] “CODE ORANGE Day” means** a day which has been designated by the Department as a “Code Orange” day for expected pollution intensity.
- 3.7. **[NEW] “CODE Red Day” means** a day which has been designated by the Department as a “Code Red” day for expected pollution intensity.
- 3.8. **“DEPARTMENT” means** the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control as defined in Title 29, Delaware Code, Chapter 80, as amended.

- 3.9. ***“FRIABLE ASBESTOS MATERIAL” means*** any material that contains more than 1% asbestos by weight and that can be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder, when dry, by hand pressure.
- 3.10. ***“FUEL” means*** any combustible matter including, but not limited to coal, gas, oil, and refuse.
- 3.11. ***“GARBAGE” means*** animal or vegetable waste matter originating in houses, kitchens, restaurants, hotels, produce markets or similar installations.
- 3.12. ***“INCINERATION” means*** the process of igniting and burning solid, semi-solid, liquid, or gaseous combustible waste to their products of combustion.
- 3.13. ***“INDUSTRIAL WASTE” means*** any waste produced by a manufacturing process.
- 3.14. ***“MATERIAL” means*** any gas, liquid, or solid or any combination thereof.
- 3.15. ***“OPEN BURNING” means*** any outdoor fire or outdoor smoke-producing process from which the products of combustion are emitted directly into the ambient air. This does not include incinerators, boilers, or heaters used in process operations.
- 3.16. ***“PERSON” means*** any individual, firm, association, organization, partnership, business trust, corporation, company, contractor, supplier, installer, developer, user or owner or operator, or any Federal, State or Local governmental agency or public district or any officer or employee thereof.
- 3.17. ***“PRESCRIBED BURNING” means*** open burning under such conditions that the fire is confined to a predetermined area for a specific purpose.
- 3.18. ***“PRIVATE DWELLING” means*** a domestic residence housing no more than three (3) families and where no commercial or industrial activity is carried on.
- 3.19. ***“RECREATIONAL PURPOSES” means*** any purpose which, in the judgment of the Department, fulfills a physical or social need, including, but not limited to, camping, ceremonies, and religious rites.
- 3.20. ***“REFUSE” means*** garbage, rubbish, or trade waste.
- 3.21. ***“RUBBISH” means*** waste solids or liquids including but not necessarily limited to, rags, clothes, leather, rubber, carpets, excelsior, paper, ashes, furniture, tin cans, glass, crockery, masonry, tires, or waste oil.
- 3.22. ***“SALVAGE OPERATION” means*** any business, trade or industry engaged entirely or partially in salvaging or reclaiming any product or material, including, but not necessarily limited to metal, chemicals, motor vehicles, shipping containers or drums.
- 3.23. ***“SILVICULTURE” means*** the care and cultivation of forest trees.
- 3.24. ***“SOLID FUEL” means*** a fuel which is fired as a solid, such as anthracite or semi-anthracite, bituminous or sub-bituminous coal, lignite, coke, wood, or any solid by-product of a manufacturing process that may be substituted for any of the above specifically mentioned fuels.
- 3.25. ***“SOLID WASTE” means*** refuse, more than 50 percent of which is municipal type waste consisting of a mixture of paper, wood, yard wastes, food wastes, plastics, leather, rubber, and other combustibles and noncombustible materials such as glass and rock.
- 3.26. ***“TRADE WASTE” means*** any solid, liquid, or gaseous waste material or rubbish resulting from construction, land clearing for construction or development, building operations, or the prosecution of any business, trade, or industry including, but not necessarily limited to, wood, plastic products, cartons, paint, grease, oil and other petroleum products, chemicals or cinders.

- 3.27. **"WASTE Oil" means** used or spent oil or solvents or other volatile hydrocarbons, including but not limited to crankcase oil.

4.0 Prohibitions and Related Provisions

- 4.1. No person shall cause or allow open burning of refuse.
- 4.2. No person shall cause or allow open burning in the conduct of a salvage operation.
- 4.3. No person shall cause or allow the open burning of fallen leaves.
- 4.4. No person shall cause or allow open burning otherwise permitted by this regulation when, in the judgment of any Department employee, fire marshal or law enforcement officer:
 - 4.4.1. A condition of air stagnation exists or a Code Red or Orange has been issued; or
 - 4.4.2. The open burning impacts a person's health, comfort, use or enjoyment of his or her real property.
- 4.5. No person shall conduct any open burning allowed by this regulation without giving prior notice to the Fire Call Board for the county in which the fire will occur.
- 4.6. No person shall use tires, waste oil, off-specification oil or any oil heavier than No. 2 as an auxiliary fuel for an open burn.
- 4.7. Any person causing or allowing open burning shall remain present and closely supervise all fire(s) at all times until the fire(s) are completely extinguished.
- 4.8. No person shall use more than the minimum amount of auxiliary fuel needed to initiate an open burn.
- 4.9. Upon being instructed to do so by any Department employee, fire marshal or law enforcement officer, any person shall immediately cease open burning and shall immediately extinguish all active open burning on their property or under their control.
- 4.10. No person shall cause or allow any open burning when a burn ban has been issued by the Delaware State Fire Marshall, even though the activities would have otherwise been permitted by this Regulation.
- 4.11. This Regulation shall not be construed to permit open burning where it is otherwise prohibited.
- 4.12. No person shall burn for the purpose of land clearing except as permitted in 6.2.2.

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5.0 Season and Time Restrictions

- 5.1. No person shall cause or allow any open burning from May 1 through September 30, without prior written approval by the Department. The Department may grant approval to conduct open burning between May 1 and September 30 for circumstances that threaten the health, safety or welfare of a person or persons. The applicant must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department that such circumstances pose a more serious threat than the health threat posed by the open burning. Approval will be granted to applicants on a case-by-case basis.
- 5.2. No person shall cause or allow open burning, as permitted by this regulation, except between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- 5.3. Burning outside of the hours permitted in Section 2.2 may only be conducted, if the person causing or allowing the fire meets the following criteria:

- 5.3.1. In order to burn during extended hours, the person causing or allowing the open burn must submit an application to the Department containing documentation sufficient to satisfy the Department that burning outside of the permissible hours will lead to smoke reduction, or a more efficient, complete, or safer burn; and
- 5.3.2. Approval to burn during extended hours is given by the Department before such burning takes place.

6.0 Allowable Open Burning

- 6.1. Open burning, as permitted by this regulation, may be conducted without prior approval of the Department, except as provided in Sections 5.1, 5.3, 6.2.2, 6.2.3, and 6.2.4.
- 6.2. Subject to other restrictions in this Regulation, open burning may occur for the exclusive purposes of:
 - 6.2.1. Domestic burning of brush, branches and limbs that have been cut from trees or shrubbery originating on the premises and conducted by individuals domiciled in a private dwelling on the premises, and where burning is conducted as far as practicable from any adjacent property;
 - 6.2.2. Clearing of land of vegetative material in agricultural or silvicultural operations to cultivate and/or prepare the soil for the purpose of producing crops or supporting livestock as long as a written commitment is made by the applicant that the land remains in agriculture or silvicultural operations for a period of a minimum of ten years following the open burning event;
 - 6.2.3. Prescribed burning for conservation practices, wildlife habitat management, or plant, pest, or disease control, provided that:
 - 6.2.3.1. The applicant documents to the satisfaction of the Department that prescribed burning is the most effective method to achieve this purpose; and
 - 6.2.3.2. Permission to burn is given by the Department before such burning takes place.
 - 6.2.4. The demolition by intentional burning of a structure solely for fire fighting instruction conducted by authorized fire companies, provided that:
 - 6.2.4.1. The fire company documents to the satisfaction of the Department that all building fixtures such as hot water heaters, boilers and air conditioning units, all materials including household appliances and/or refuse, have been removed from the building prior to burning any portion of the building; and
 - 6.2.4.2. The fire company documents that any internal asbestos containing materials (including pipe coverings and other insulation) and any external asbestos containing materials (including siding) have been removed from the building prior to burning any portion of the building, and that the 10-day notification of this demolition activity, as required by EPA and the Department has been submitted ; and
 - 6.2.4.3. The fire company documents that it is familiar with the Delaware State Fire Prevention Regulations and it will comply with those regulations and all other applicable health and safety regulations; and
 - 6.2.4.4. Permission to burn is given by the Department before such burning takes place.

- 6.2.4.5. The fire company performing any intentional burning shall be present during the entire burning operation and the smoldering has ceased.

7.0 Exemptions

The following operations are exempt from 4.5, all provisions of 5.0 and of 6.0 of this regulation, provided that the fire is no larger than reasonably necessary to meet the purpose of the activity:

- 7.1. Fires used for cooking of food for human consumption of a size no greater than 10 cubic feet of material, in total, to be burned, where only the following materials are burned:
 - 7.1.1. unpainted/untreated natural, unshaped or unprocessed wood,
 - 7.1.2. charcoal,
 - 7.1.3. propane, or
 - 7.1.4. natural gas;
- 7.2. Recreational fires such as campfires of a size no greater than 25 cubic feet of material, in total, to be burned, where only unpainted/untreated natural, unshaped or unprocessed wood is burned;
- 7.3. Ceremonial fires of a size no greater than 25 cubic feet of material, in total, to be burned, by established groups or tribes, provided that only unpainted/untreated natural, unshaped or unprocessed wood is burned;
- 7.4. Emergency signaling flares;
- 7.5. Emergency burning or use of any other appropriate technique, by governmental agencies or fire companies to control or suppress ongoing fires;
- 7.6. Fire fighting instruction conducted at the Delaware State Fire School and by established fire companies on a case-by-case basis after submitting an application and obtaining specific approval of that application from the Air Quality Management Section of DNREC.